

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The compound of the formula (13) can be obtained by heating the compound of the formula (VIII) and the compound of the formula (12) in a suitable solvent in the presence of a base. When the base is absent, the reaction proceeds thermally by raising the reaction temperature, whereby compound (13) can be obtained. Here, the compound of the formula (13) (12) is an amine or a salt thereof.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 129, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

After completion of the culture, water (50 μ l) and 25 μ l of SDS buffer (240 mM Tris-HCl (pH 6.8), 8% SDS, 40% glycerol) were added to the culture supernatant (25 μ l), and the mixture (10 μ l) was electrophoresed on a 7.5% acrylamide-gel containing 0.1% gelatin.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 129, line 26, with the following rewritten paragraph:

After the electrophoresis, the gel was washed with ~~pH 7.5~~ Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.5) containing 0.5% Triton X-100 (Sigma Ltd.) for 1 hr. The gel was immersed in an activation buffer (150 mM NaCl, 50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5), 10 mM CaCl_2) at 37°C for 18 hr to activate MMP-9, and then stained with CBB. The obtained MMP-9 band was converted to numerical values by a densitometer (ATTO. Ltd.).